



## Heartland Coordination Blueprint

### ACTIONS

- ▶ Build productive multi-state teams to address regional water quality priorities of targeted stakeholder groups.
- ▶ Strengthen interagency partnerships with the assistance of EPA Region 7.
- ▶ Link water quality research, education, and extension among Iowa State University, Kansas State University, the University of Missouri, the University of Nebraska, and the CSREES National Water Quality Program.
- ▶ Facilitate regional dialog and leverage resources from state and EPA programs. Engage 1890 and 1994 universities in capacity-building for water quality outreach.

### RESULTS

- ▶ Strong interagency working relationships.
- ▶ Network of service providers and community development professionals who help producers and watershed communities meet their environmental, regulatory, and economic objectives.

### Heartland Regional Leadership Team

Gerald A. Miller – Iowa State University, Project Manager  
 Charles Barden – Kansas State University  
 Bob Broz – University of Missouri  
 Daniel Devlin – Kansas State  
 Richard Koelsch – University of Nebraska  
 John Lawrence – Iowa State University  
 Mary Simon Leuci – University of Missouri  
 Charles Wortmann – University of Nebraska  
 Lois Wright Morton – Iowa State University  
 Susan Brown – Iowa State University Extension  
 Sorrel Brown – Iowa State University Extension  
 Damon Frizzell – Region 7 EPA



Applying knowledge to improve water quality



IDEA: Information Development~Expanding Awareness

## Animal Manure Management

The Animal Manure Management Issue Team is facilitating regular communication and collaboration between the landgrant universities, state NRCS programs, EPA Region 7, and state agriculture and natural resource agencies at the regional level.

### Accomplishments, 2003-2004

- ▶ Sponsored a progressive series of workshops for staff of universities, regulatory and USDA agencies on:
  - Critical CAFO implementation issues;
  - CAFO regulation development; and
  - CNMP development and implementation.
- ▶ Developed Web-based resources, including a monthly on-line newsletter, CAFO and CNMP technical guidance documents and selected research reports, workshop consensus reports and virtual tours of alternative technologies.
- ▶ Provided regional leadership for compiling current science on vegetative treatment systems for managing open lot runoff under CAFO rules.
- ▶ Collaborated with EPA Region 7 in the presentation of scientific and technical information for a national EPA training targeting CAFO permit writers and inspectors.
- ▶ Leveraged additional resources from the CSREES 406 program, EPA 319 monitoring projects, the Livestock and Poultry Environmental Stewardship Curriculum, and national NRCS.

## Community Involvement

The Community Involvement in Watershed Management Issue Team includes researchers, practitioners, staff of EPA Region 7 watershed programs and others who are applying community development methods in watersheds. The Heartland Initiative provides a regional forum to share their experiences and prioritize needs for capacity-building at the regional level.

### Accomplishments, 2003-2004

- ▶ Held a workshop to introduce regional extension leaders to the principles of community development intervention in watersheds. Participants discussed case studies from the region.
- ▶ Established an issue Web site including:
  - A network of individuals with experience in community involvement in watershed management;
  - Case studies and research reviews by the issue team; and
  - An inventory of education and community development tools that can be used in a watershed context.
- ▶ Convened a working group to plan a regional training on conflict mediation and public deliberation in watershed communities.
- ▶ Initiated a study of the effect of citizen participation on watershed management.

## Regional Communications

IDEA (Information Development~Expanding Awareness) provides technical communication and Web support to the Leadership and Priority Issue Teams.

### Accomplishments, 2003-2004

- ▶ Created Heartland Regional Web site including:
  - A database of CSREES-funded projects and reports;
  - Links to other regional and national water quality programs; and
  - An interactive reporting system used by the Leadership Team.
- ▶ Programmed a content management system that allows each issue team to manage content on their Web site while maintaining consistent organization and navigation. The Heartland Regional home page serves as the gateway to priority issue sites.
- ▶ Designed three Heartland regional posters for CSREES National Water Quality Conferences, a Heartland regional fact sheet, and a poster for the Animal Manure Management Issue Team.

## Nutrient & Pesticide Management

The Nutrient and Pesticide Management Issue Team assists natural resource management and regulatory agencies to access information and expertise for improved nutrient and pesticide management water quality Best Management Practices (BMPs).

### Accomplishments, 2003-2004

- ▶ Convened a stakeholder steering committee which identified regional nutrient and pesticide management priorities as:
  - Cost-effectiveness of BMPs;
  - Regional nutrient criteria;
  - Professional development for technical service providers; and
  - Phosphorus (P) as the first subject matter priority, followed by Nitrogen and pesticides.
- ▶ Held a research roundtable of scientists and technical specialists on phosphorus management.
- ▶ Sponsored a follow-up symposium to share information on P BMPs and risk assessment between research and technical agencies. A topic of interest was comparing states' approaches to the P Index.
- ▶ Created a Web site with an inventory of nutrient management resources; an on-line search function for technical reports and regional publications; events calendars and related presentations and fact sheets.
- ▶ Formed a working group to develop regional research projects.

# Building Bridges

# to Improve Water Quality

[www.heartlandwq.iastate.edu](http://www.heartlandwq.iastate.edu)

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